

DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
LEPC REPORT
Drafted 14 March 2006

FY 04 Homeland Security Funding: We have just a couple items left to receive and this procurement will be completed. I expect to have those in hand and make final payment later this month. At the last minute, we were able to obtain the capability to program these new radios locally. Karen Brown has the software and has been shown how to do it. This represents a significant savings, both of time and money as we continue to adapt to the changing communications environment around us.

Disaster and Emergency Plan: Formerly called the Emergency Operations Plan, County Resolution 6-2006 formalized the adoption of this fully redrafted document. The resolution also reiterated the incorporation of NIMS and ICS standards for all emergency actions within the county. The intent of this restatement of policy is to once again emphasize that point for all of our emergency responders. Electronic copies of the Disaster and Emergency Plan can be provided to anyone desiring them just by asking me. All public safety agencies need to be familiar with this plan, as it is the foundation for all our emergency response.

Evacuation Plan: Drafting the county Evacuation and Quarantine Plan (an annex to the Disaster and Emergency Plan discussed above) is nearly completed. I hope to have the final version for LEPC review at this meeting, then it will go to the Commissioners for approval.

SCMIC: The SCMIC Governing Board will meet on 16 March in Bozeman. I will provide a verbal report at the LEPC meeting two days later, as well as an update on the status of the statewide Interoperability Montana program of which the consortium is a part. There will be significant impact of current state plans for distribution of future Homeland Security funds which we can discuss at that time.

CCC: Melinda will give a full report of CCC activities at the meeting, but everyone should be aware that the CERT training in Alder in February was very successfully with excellent participation from all across the county. We have received no word yet as to funding for the current fiscal year and also have received no formal notification of action on our request for FY 04 augmentation., although we have been informally informed that we are to receive an additional \$4000 or \$4500.

Risk Mitigation Coordinator: Last minute details are all that stands in the way of getting this program off the ground. The Board of Commissioners has approved establishment of a Risk Mitigation Coordinator (RMC) for the County and just a few items need to be worked out or may have been worked out by the time of our LEPC meeting. The intent is to combine leadership of the Wildland/Urban Interface (WUI) program and the need for review of proposed sub-divisions from an overall public safety perspective into one county position. Speaking for the new RMC and my department, we would welcome any suggestions or other input the group would care to make as we get things going. We are also relying on the help of several of the members to get "up to speed" on matters relating to subdivision review as we begin to increase the part we play in this process. Once again, let me emphasize that this is in no way intended to reduce the role of local fire chiefs in the sub-division review. We expect to work closely with them. It is intended as an addition and, in many ways, an assist to the Chiefs, the Planning Board and the Commissioners as they seek to determine the potential impact of such new development. At the same time, we expect to get our WUI/Defensible Space program going once again, to the betterment of our county fire protection efforts.

Mutual Aid: While recent legislation has greatly reduced the need for detailed individual mutual aid agreements in many cases, there are still some areas that will need such formal documentation of agreement. One of those is our relationship with the Yellowstone Club. We are currently working on a draft of such an agreement which, hopefully, will involve MCSO, Ennis ambulance, Harrison-Pony VFD, MVRFD, the county Department of Emergency Management and perhaps the town of Ennis or even others.

Fire Grant: